Study on the Origin and Evolution of life on Earth

235. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sponsored studies taken up by the Birbal Sahni Institute of Paeleobotany on the origin and evolution of life on earth;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating:

(i) the estimated expenditure involved in the studies;

(ii) the areas of the studies proposed to be covered by the scientists;

(iii) the period likely to be taken for the completion of the project; and

(c) whether it is a fact that in view of the critical economic condition of the country, the project could not be postponed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Rs. 19,78,500/-.

(ii) The study is to find out the nature and the extent of biogenic-chemogenic processes during the early history of the earth, when the possible transformation from chemical to biological evolution took place.

(iii) and (c) The project will be completed in March 1991. No useful purpose will be served by postpoining the project at this stage.

Export of Maruti Cars

236. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of actual export of Maruti cars as against the target for 1990-91;

(b) what is the impact of short supply of Maruti cars on export commitments;

(c) what is the percentage of shortfall in export earnings as a consequence thereof as against the estimated earnings; and

(d) what are the main causes for shortfall in export target and what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (d) For the year 1990-91, Maruti had projected an export target of 10,000 vehicles against which Maruti has exported 3197 vehicles till 5th February, 1991. The projected foreign exchange earning for 1990-91 was US $ 40 million against which Maruti expects to earn US $ 40.5 million including sale of cars in India against foreign exchange. As regards production, Maruti expects to produce around 1,22,000 vehicles against the target of 1,21,000 for 1990-91.

Disturbances in Tamil Nadu after imposition of President's Rule

237. SHRI M. M. JACOB: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was violence and stone throwing in Madras and other parts of South India recently after the imposition of President's Rule in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to put down violence so as to avoid loss to public properties, transport etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) According to available reports, some incidents of violence had taken place in Tamil Nadu. Rallies and protest meetings also took place in several other States.

(b) Under the VIIth Schedule to the Constitution, 'Public Order' and 'Police